

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested. Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1-20 stand rejected. Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1-20 stand rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over **Johnson et al.** (USP 6,580,950, previously cited) in view of **Tran** (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0019954, previously cited). Claims 2, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17 and 19-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over **Johnson et al.** in view of **Tran** in view of **Hilt** (USP 6,738,820, previously cited). For the reasons set forth in detail below, these rejections are respectfully traversed.

The rejections under §103 set forth on pages 2-10 of the Office Action simply repeat the rejections from the previous Office Action mailed September 6, 2006. Therefore, the arguments below focus on the Examiner's *Response to Arguments* beginning on page 10 of the Office Action. In the Amendment filed February 26, 2007, the following arguments were proffered.

- (1) First, it was argued that that the Examiner recognizes that the **Johnson et al.** reference does not disclose or suggest changing a power mode of an information processor from a power-saving mode to a normal mode when the receiving unit receives the remote control request, and changing the power mode from the normal mode to the power saving mode when the setting of the remote control data to the apparatus to be remote controlled is complete.

- (2) It was also argued that one difference between the present invention and the cited prior art is that the present invention controls a power mode of an *information processor*, whereas the cited prior art (**Tran**) teaches controlling power to a *transceiver* that is part of a network interface card.
- (3) It was further argued that **Tran** does not disclose or suggest a power control unit that changes a power mode *of an information processor* that is connected to a gateway card. In contrast, **Tran** teaches controlling a power mode of a *transceiver* that is part of a network interface card (NIC) or may be coupled to a computer processor. See, e.g., section [0004] of **Tran**.
- (4) Finally, it was argued that **Tran** does not disclose or suggest the type of control that is performed by the claimed power control unit. More specifically, according to the claimed invention, the power control unit changes a power mode of the information processor from a power-saving mode to a normal power mode *when the receiving unit receives the remote control request*, and changes the power mode of the information processor from the normal power mode to the power-saving mode *when the setting of the remote control data to the apparatus to be remote controlled is complete*.

Examiner's Response to Arguments

The Examiner continues to agree with applicants that **Johnson et al.** does not disclose or suggest the above-noted features of the power control unit. *In fact, Johnson et al. is completely silent regarding any power saving device or operation.* See, e.g., present Office Action, page 11, lines 8-10.

The Examiner responds to the arguments set forth in Items (2) and (3) above, as follows:

Tran does disclose controlling the power provided to a transceiver. However, a transceiver is an information processing device. A transceiver performs the functions of transmitting data or receiving information. Information is inherently processed during the receiving

and transmitting. Therefore, Tran does disclose controlling the power mode of an information processor. See Office Action, page 11, lines 2-6.

The Examiner responds to the arguments set forth in Item (4) above, as follows:

Tran discloses using a transmitter (in a normal power mode state) to send remote controlling link signals to a remote device. After these signals are sent, the transmitter is powered down. The system will be changed from a powered down mode to a normal power mode the next time a remote signal is received. [paragraph 0035]. Therefore, Tran does disclose changing the power mode from a normal mode to a power saving mode when the setting of remote control data to an apparatus to be controlled is complete. See Office Action, page 11, lines 15-20.

Response on the merits

For the reasons set forth in detail below, the rejections under §103 are respectfully traversed. The arguments below are discussed below with respect to independent claim 1. However, each of independent claims 4, 7, 10, 13 and 16 recite features similar to claim 1 and the same arguments apply to claims 4, 7, 10, 13 and 16.

Initially, it is noted that the Examiner considers the transceiver of **Tran** to be a type of “information processing device.” Further, it is clear that **Tran** teaches regulating a power mode of the transceiver.

However, unlike the claimed invention, it is respectfully submitted that neither **Johnson et al.** nor **Tran** disclose or suggest regulating the power mode of the transceiver based on a remote control request and completion of setting of the remote control data to the apparatus to be remote controlled. Specifically, neither **Johnson et al.** nor **Tran** disclose or suggest “a power control unit that changes a power mode of the information processor from a power-saving mode

to a normal power mode *in response to the receiving unit receiving the remote control request*, and changes the power mode of the information processor from the normal power mode to the power-saving mode *in response to completion of the setting of the remote control data to the apparatus to be remote controlled*,” as recited in the final paragraph of claim 1.

The Examiner relies on **Tran** to teach the features recited in the last paragraph of claim 1. Based on the Examiner’s comments in the *Response to Arguments*, the Examiner apparently considers the claim limitation “a power control unit that ... changes the power mode of the information processor from the *normal power mode* to the *power-saving mode* in response to completion of the setting of the remote control data to the apparatus to be remote controlled” to correspond to the description in paragraph [0035] of **Tran** of setting of the full-off state (i.e., a power-saving mode) of the transceiver when, in response to sending *link pulses* to a remote device, no response signal (i.e., no energy detect signal) is received.

In particular, the Examiner apparently considers the “link pulses” disclosed by **Tran** in paragraph [0035] to correspond to remote control signals (i.e., The Examiner asserts “Tran discloses using a transmitter (in a *normal power mode* state) to send remote controlling *link signals* to a remote device.”). Further, the Examiner apparently considers the completion of the sending of the link pulses to correspond to the claimed changing to the power saving mode “in response to completion of the setting of the remote control data...” (i.e., The Examiner asserts “After these [link] signals are sent, the transmitter is *powered down*.”).

With respect to the link pulses, **Tran** teaches “Link pulses are signals for auto-negotiation between two Ethernet devices as identified in the IEEE 802.3 standard.” See paragraph [0035] at

top of page 4. “Auto-negotiation” is an Ethernet procedure by which two connected devices choose common transmission parameters, such as speed and duplex mode. The link pulses are electrical signals used to detect the presence of a connection to another device.

Thus, first, it is submitted that sending link pulses does not correspond to the claimed “setting of the remote control data to the apparatus to be remote controlled.” More specifically, the link pulses simply detect the presence of a connection to another device and are not remote control data that is *set* to an apparatus to be remote controlled.

Second, as described in section [0035], the transceiver of **Tran** enters the *powered down* state *if the device to which the link pulses are sent does not respond*. More particularly, in paragraph [0035], **Tran** discloses that in a “pending wake-up state,” the wake-up control 135 (Fig. 4) provides an “on” signal to a transmitter so that only the transmitter will draw current from the computer power source. The state machine 140 then sends *link pulses* to a device, such as another computer, that the transceiver is connected to on the communications system. If the device is active, the device sends a signal back to the transceiver and the state machine enters a wake-up state. *If no signal is received by the transceiver, the state machine returns to the full off state.*

Therefore, unlike the claimed invention, **Tran** teaches entering the *powered down* state when the device to which the link signal is sent, such as another computer, *does not send a signal back to the transceiver* (i.e., does not respond). Thus, it is clear that **Tran does not teach changing to the power-saving mode “in response to setting of the remote control data to the apparatus to be controlled.”** Even assuming, *arguendo*, that the link pulses are considered to be

remote control data, then **Tran** would teach entering the powered down state when there is *no response* to the remote control data (link pulses).

Still further, with respect to the claimed feature of changing a power mode of the information processor “from a *power-saving* mode to a *normal power* mode,” the Examiner asserts “The system will be changed from a *powered down* mode to a *normal power* mode the next time a remote signal is received. [paragraph 0035].”

In paragraph [0035], **Tran** teaches that if the device to which the link pulse is sent responds (i.e., the device sends a signal back to the transceiver), then the transceiver enters a wake-up state. However, as noted above, the link pulses are not remote control requests. Instead, the link pulses are electrical signals used detect the presence of a connection to another device. Therefore, **Tran** also does not disclose the claimed changing “a power mode of the information processor from a power-saving mode to a normal power mode *in response to the receiving unit receiving the remote control request.*”

Still further, it is noted that the Examiner relies on the **Johnson et al.** reference to teach the claimed “receiving unit,” and relies on the **Tran** reference to teach changing “a power mode of the information processor from a power-saving mode to a *normal power mode in response to the receiving unit receiving the remote control request.*” However, as discussed above, the transceiver of **Tran** enters a wake-up state (normal power mode) only if the device to which link pulses (which link pulses are considered remote control signals by the Examiner) are sent *responds to the transceiver.* Therefore, contrary to the claimed invention, the transceiver of

Tran does not enter the wake-up state (normal power mode) in response to the *receiving unit* receiving a link signal (remote control signal).

In other words, the *wake-up state* of the transceiver in **Tran** is not entered in response to a receiving unit receiving the link signal (remote control signal). As discussed above, according to the **Tran** system, a device may receive a link signal, but not respond, in which case the transceiver enters the *powered-down state* (i.e., **Tran** teaches entering the *powered down* state when the device to which the link signal is sent, such as another computer, *does not send a signal back to the transceiver* (i.e., does not respond)). Alternatively, as discussed above, a device may receive a link signal and respond to the transceiver, in which case the *wake-up state* is entered *in response to the transceiver* receiving the response from the device.

Finally, it is noted that in the Amendment filed on February 26, 2007, it was argued that none of the cited prior art discloses the features recited in dependent claims 19 and 20. The present Office Action does not respond to these arguments. Accordingly, these arguments are hereby incorporated by reference and reiterated. The Examiner is respectfully requested to respond to these arguments.

For all of the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that each of independent claims 1, 4, 7, 10, 13 and 16, and claims dependent therefrom, patentably distinguish over the cited prior art and define allowable subject matter. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under §103 are respectfully requested.

Application No. 10/658,341
Art Unit: 2116

Request for Reconsideration under 37 C.F.R. §1.116
Attorney Docket No.: 031103

CONCLUSION

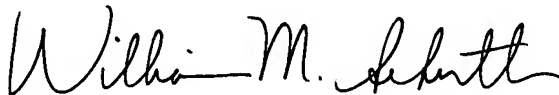
In view of the foregoing amendments and accompanying remarks, it is submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection and an indication of allowability of all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that there are issues remaining to be resolved in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite and complete prosecution of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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